Amendment and Response Appl. No. 09/923,198

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

This amendment responds to the Office Action of February 20, 2003, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 13-15, 17, 27-32, 34, and 35 are pending in the application with claims 3, 7, 11, 12, 18-26, and 36 having been canceled and claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 13, 14, 17, and 28-32 having been amended. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested as it is believed they put the application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 10-12, 18, 19, 21-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. According to the Examiner, "There is no antecedent basis for the limitations of R1,2,4 and 7 in amended claim 1."

Further, claim 20 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. According to the Examiner, "The claim does not further limit claim 1."

Claims 3, 7, 11, 12, 18, 19, and 21-26 have been canceled. Claims 2, 6, and 10 have been amended so as to read on substituted or unsubstituted alkyl groups which have antecedent basis in claim 1.

Claim 20 has been canceled.

Amendment and Response Appl. No. 09/923,198

Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejections of claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 10-12, 18, 19, 20-26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, have been overcome and their withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Additionally, the claims have been amended to correct errors of a typographical nature, i.e., putting certain indicia in subscript or superscript form so as to conform to the terminology employed in the disclosure. Also, claims 1, 31, and 32 have been amended to employ terminology of a more conventional Markush type.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and an early Office Action to that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Grandinetti

Registration No. 30,754

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone (212) 382-0700